Harrison Herald Newsletter

Dear Parents

Tomorrow marks the end of the first semester for 2013. The children and staff are in need of a break and we are all looking forward to the holidays. I trust that those of us who will be travelling will do so in a safe way and we return in two weeks refreshed and ready for the second semester.

WWVP
All people who work with children at MTS in a paid or unpaid capacity will need to produce their Working With Vulnerable People Card in order to continue to assist at schools. Currently there is a considerable wait time on the issuing of these cards. All our wonderful parent volunteers will require a card by November and that card will need to be copied and filed in the front office. If you already have your WWVP card please bring it into the office before November so we can copy it for you. If you haven’t applied for your card can I suggest that you apply sooner rather that later. We have a number of blank forms available at the front office.

Athletics Carnival
At MTS our Athletics Carnival is an inclusive day where we have lots of fun and involve the whole school. We prefer to have the carnival when the weather is warmer and the children can play without getting frostbite. The PSSA representative carnival is in Week 2 next term and yesterday we had some races to determine our school representatives in sprint races and 800 metres. The whole school athletics carnival has been moved from next term and will now be held in Term 4.

Netball Carnival
In 2014 we have the opportunity to run the ACT catholic Schools Netball carnival. Each school gets to run the carnival every 12 years or so and we are fortunate to get this opportunity so early in the life of the school. Next year this will be our one and only big fundraiser!!!! Schools who have run the carnival in previous years have made in excess of $35 000 on the day. I am asking for a volunteer who could act as coordinator of the carnival to contact me and we can discuss the role. We will need the support of each and every parent in the whole school on this one day next year.

Golf Day
We hope to run another MTS Golf Day in October at Gungahlin Lakes. If you would like to assist in any way please contact Donna at the front office and leave your name and I will contact you to organise a special meeting.

Community Day
Yesterday, students from John Paul College participated in a stewardship program, involving many community projects. We were fortunate to have some of these students assist our children and staff both in the classroom and on the playground.

The Year 7 students were a credit to their school, participating with great enthusiasm, regardless of the task. We look forward to continuing our relationship with John Paul College for the remainder of 2013 and into the future.

Thanks also to Peter Morris for assisting the children with the construction of the digging pit for the children.

Farewell
Tomorrow we bid farewell to two staff members and three students. Katy Smith and Deb Hoffman will leave our school family tomorrow. We wish them every success for the future. We also say goodbye to Jacob and Sam Smith and Jacob Keogh who will leave at the end of the term.

... Just For Fun
(or Another DAD Joke)

Just for Fun

Baby Snake: Am I venomous?
Mummy Snake: No dear.
Baby Snake: Thank goodness because I’ve just bitten my tongue.
Happy birthday to everyone who is celebrating their birthday this week including: Oscar Uphill, Mikayla Keller, Riley Santarossa-Perman, Rhys Webster, Ben Sisley, Liam Russell, Charlotte Taylor, Jack Evans, Hannah Verco, Tara Fennell, Maddie Christie, Chloe Thorpe, Isabella Watson, April Fuller, Eunice Leong, Winifred Keating, Aiden Dooley, Samuel Moran, Ciarra Villena, Vaughn Johns, Luke Quinn, Jennifer Rigney, Kristian Burgess, Chloe Barker, David Thurgar, Thomas Vrkic, Tiana Gamma, Oscar Stepanek, Chloe Priestley, Mitchell Young, George Wasef, Mia Askew, James Cadiz, Jack Dugdale, Riley Stanhope, Ryan Dooley and Marcus Dwyer.

Thank you to the children and their families for the beautiful blessing we received yesterday at assembly. We will carry your blessing in our hearts and that will make leaving Mother Teresa a little easier for us. God bless you all always.

Mrs Smith and Mrs Hoffman

Preschool
Cooper Power  (Yellow Seahorses)  
Andreas Niesen  (Blue Whales)  
Bridget Leemhuis (Purple Starfish)  
Jasmin Kyaw /Cooper George  (Red Jellyfish)  

Kinder
Lija Scerba  (Aqua)  
James Watt  (Sapphire)  
Evie Foote (Teal)  
Richard Ji  (Turquoise)  

Year One:  
Michael Yang (Amber)  
Chloe Rothe  (Ochre)  
Chloe Barker  (Orange)  
Bradley Kaufhold  (Tangerine)  

Year Two
Macy Huang (Emerald)  
Ruby Causer (Jade)  
Alex French (Lime)  

Year Three
Tom Ryan (Lilac)  
Ashely Cremin (Violet)  

Year Four/Five
Aiden Dooley (Crimson)  
Larni Bush (Magenta)  

Happy birthday
WHOLE SCHOOL FOCUS:
The Journey

The value we are focussing on for the this week is:

Forgiveness

Thank you to Miss Purcell and Year 1 Ochre, for presenting our a lovely Focus Assembly on ‘Forgiveness’. The students dramatized the Gospel story of the ‘Forgiving Father’ and sang a catchy song, ‘What Should I Do’. At Mother Teresa we are going to show forgiveness towards those we meet in our class and on the playground by:

- Taking responsibility for our actions
- Consider others’ points of view
- Say sorry

NAIDOC WEEK
The theme for NAIDOC Week 2013 is We value the vision: Yirrkala Bark Petitions 1963.

This year’s theme proudly celebrates the 50th anniversary of the presentation of the Yirrkala Bark Petitions to the Federal Parliament.

In August 1963, the Yolngu people of Yirrkala in northeast Arnhem Land sent two bark petitions – framed by traditional ochre paintings of clan designs – to the Australian House of Representatives. The petitions protested the Commonwealth’s granting of mining rights on land excised from Arnhem Land reserve and sought the recognition by the Australian Parliament of the Yolngu peoples’ traditional rights and ownership of their lands.

As Christian people, we are most fortunate to have a leader, Christ, who tells us that the most important things to do in life are to love God, love ourselves and love our neighbour. Added to this, St Paul reminds us that, “Christ has given us a ministry of reconciliation …. so, we are ambassadors for Christ.” 2 Cor. 5: 18-20.

If we were to take a minute or two to look around our world, we would see both the lights of reconciliation and the shadows of disharmony where pain, non-acceptance, anger and despair are well in evidence. There is much need for healing within ourselves, our families, our neighbourhoods and our communities. Families, communities, even nations are torn apart because people refuse to forgive one another and to move towards reconciliation. Shirley Malingrin has this insight: “Divisions hurt.

I’ve seen whole families torn apart by deep incisions upon the heart that left the scars that through the years caused broken lives and bitter tears.”

Reconciliation means to make friendly again, to bring into harmony. We don’t necessarily seem to be born with this inclination and this might be because in human relations we are self-centred. We think we are the yardstick by which the moral and intellectual qualities of our world ought to be judged. We fail with people we feel do not come up to our standard; we don’t always give them the courtesy of tolerance in an attempt to understand those who are our fellow human beings.

At Mother Teresa School we aim to promote reconciliation and maintain awareness of and respect for the dignity of Indigenous peoples by acknowledging traditional peoples at every meeting or gathering we say:

We acknowledge the Ngunawal People, the traditional owners of this land on which we gather today.

It is a sobering thought to realise that the land upon which we live was once the home of Aboriginal people. In a sense, we are part of an “historical sin” because the land was taken by governments without permission or compensation. Our 220 years of occupation is nothing compared to 50 000 years of Aboriginal occupation. The Aboriginal poet, Kath Walker or Oodgeroo Noonuccal, expresses the pain of this loss when she writes:

“…… All the old ways gone now and scattered.
The scrubs are gone, the hunting and the laughter. The eagle has gone.
The emu and the kangaroo are gone from this place.
The bora ring is gone. The Corroboree is gone. And we are going.”

NAIDOC Week offers a timely opportunity for us to pause and think about the act of reconciliation in our own life, its immediate application within our family and its broader application within the Australian family. Recently, an Aboriginal elder about to read a welcome message to a group of Government officials, paused to say, “Firstly, I will read it in Australian, then, I will read it in English.”

God, our Father, thank You for giving us a ministry of reconciliation and for making us Your ambassadors. Amen

RECONCILIATION / FIRST EUCHARIST

Please keep the students in Year 3 & 4 who are preparing for their Reconciliation and First Eucharist in your prayers as they prepare to receive these sacraments.

Have a wonderful holiday everyone

Peace and Best Wishes

Anne Leet
Religious Education co-ordinator
We have finally made it to the end of Term 2 and the classes have certainly been very busy. On Wednesday we welcomed the Year 7 students from John Paul College into our classrooms as part of their Stewardship work. They helped clean and tidy classrooms and store cupboards, catalogue books and label resources as well as sharing some books that they have written. The children really enjoyed having the older role models, and some of our teachers had even taught the Yr 7’s when they were in Preschool!

The Yellow Seahorses have had a very full week. Their bike day last Thursday was a great success, they planned and rode a bicycle course, ensuring that they adhered to all the road signs, even the ‘kangaroo crossing’ sign- they had to watch out for Mr Hart looking like a kangaroo! Monday saw the children building a go cart. They all took it in turns to use the tools to put the pieces together, they then went on to the basket ball courts to have a go at riding it around. Even I had a go, it was great fun! Finally on Tuesday they had their ‘footy day’. The children dressed in their favourite teams colours, had their faces painted and participated in footy skills. There are lots of thanks for people who helped with all these events, firstly the Buckley family and the Miller family for help with the bike day, then a massive thank you to Shinay Buckley’s Dad for creating the go-kart for the children to build, and lastly to Cooper Power’s Dad for bringing the Gungahlin Eagles blow up ball throwing game, which the children had a great fun using on their footy day.

In the Red Jellyfish the children have been investigating insects. They went for a bug hunt and despite the cold weather found 3 bugs, which they collected and observed in the classroom. The children drew diagrams and labelled various insects and even constructed some from dolly pegs and pipe cleaners. They have learned about the structure of insects in a song to the tune of “Head, shoulders, knees and toes.” They also managed to fit in a visit to their buddy class Kinder Aqua to watch a movie and eat popcorn. Yum! The children are really looking forward their next social get together later in the year.

The Purple Starfish have finally finished their space rocket! Early next term their rocket will be placed in the library ready for book week. The children have helped rearrange the room and are busy planning and organising two areas in their room, a pirate island surrounded by an ocean filled with creatures, and a princess area. If you have any ideas on how to enhance these areas please feel free to share these with the class staff. It was very exciting to receive an email last week from Luka Radic who is away visiting family in Croatia, and they also received a postcard. If you are heading away, or even visiting somewhere closer to home, it would be lovely to receive a postcard so the children can read it on their return.

The Green Turtles read the book, The Hungry Bear, and this led to a discussion about ice. They have now been exploring the properties of ice and Mrs Blyth has frozen some small bears into ice cubes, and the children have set up an experiment to see which conditions are the best for melting ice and therefore freeing the small bears! The children are also making some food and planning a party for Friday to say goodbye to their friend Reilly Keogh who is moving to Brisbane during the holidays with his family.

Meanwhile the Blue Whales have started a mini dinosaur project. The children started by watching a dinosaur egg hatch, they made fossils with play dough and pasta, and went digging for dinosaur bones in wet sound. They also made dinosaurs at the craft trolley.

Wow, I’m quite exhausted just writing everything down, the children certainly have been busy. I definitely think they deserve a long rest and a relaxing vacation before they return to start Term 3.

We all hope everyone has a restful and safe holiday and look forward to continuing this educational journey with your child next semester.

Thank you for your continued support,

Clare Addinell and the ELC team.
This week the students have been reflecting in class about how they can peacefully resolve disagreements. In class and on duty the teachers have been using the slogan “have you talked it out together?” when children are informing us of a disagreement. We have noticed the children are making the effort to talk and solve their disagreements peacefully. This is also a slogan that could be used at home when siblings are having a disagreement.

**Responses from last weeks challenge**

Interview your child/children and ask them to change the following statements into I… statements.

“you make me so mad” “you are a cheat” “you don’t care about me” “be quiet and do as you are told” “stop bossing me around” “get out of my way” “get out of my room” “stop following me around”

**Emily Sajler– Year 4/5:**
“you are a cheat” Emily changed this to “I would appreciate it if you played by the rules”
“you don’t care about me” Emily changed this to “I wish we could be nice to each other”
“get out of my room” Emily changed this to “I wish you would knock before coming into my room”

**Emma Howse– Year 4/5:**
“you are a cheat” Emma changed it to “I wish you would play fairly”
“stop bossing me around” Emma changed it to “I wish you would stop telling me what to do”
“stop following me around” Emma changed it to “I would appreciate it if you didn’t follow me around”

**Sophie Rodda– Year 4/5:**
"you make me so mad" Sophie changed it to "I feel mad when..."
"you are a cheat" Sophie changed it to "I would like it very much if you played fairly." 
"you don’t care about me" Sophie changed it to "I would appreciate it if you could please show me more respect."
"be quiet and do as you are told" Sophie changed it to "I expect respect when I am speaking."
"stop bossing me around" Sophie changed it to "I would like it very much if I could make my own decisions."
"get out of my way" Sophie changed it to "I would appreciate it if you move please."
"get out of my room" Sophie changed it to "I think we need to talk about my privacy."
"stop following me around" Sophie changed it to "I would appreciate it if you could please leave me alone."

Next term the children will be learning about “Negotiating” & “Including Others”. Thank you again for supporting this program. As a community we can work together to improve the well-being of all students at Mother Teresa School.

*At Mother Teresa we…*

**Talk It Out Together**

Many Thanks-Brendon Pye
What a fast paced term two! If I may indulge with a personal highlight, it was the success of 'Mother Teresa Kitchen Rules'. In their year groups, the Defence Kids were joined by some of our parents and they worked hard to produce morning tea for their teachers. The final products were outstanding and all of the staff were impressed with the standard and grateful to the students for their thoughtfulness. What did they make…?

Kindergarten elaborately decorated some cupcakes and served them on a silver cupcake stand. Year 1 made Mr Lowe’s favourite—Chocolate Crackles. Year 2 put together some delicious individual trifles. Year 3 did a fantastic job with their mini quiches and year 4/5 made yummy mini pizzas. All of the children are to be congratulated on their enthusiasm and the way they worked with our volunteers.

I would like to thank all of the mums, the big sister and the dad for giving up their time to come and help us out. Without you, it just would not have worked.

Our Defence Kids Club is continuing to meet in the hall each Tuesday at lunch time. For the past few weeks we have been having a break from craft and have been having lots of fun doing relay races and playing games. This has also helped with the battle against the cold in the hall! This week they were able to ask a friend to come along and this will continue next term.

DCO Canberra will run KidSMART programs in Term 3 and Term 4.
KidSMART - 'Deployment' for Primary school aged children 5-8 years beginning Wednesday 28 August for 4 weeks, 3.30pm-5pm at DCO Canberra 8 Thesiger Court, Deakin
KidSMART - 'Posting' for Primary school aged children 9-12 years beginning Wednesday 30 Oct for 4 weeks, 3.30pm-5pm at DCO Canberra 8 Thesiger Court, Deakin
To register your children please email dco.canberra@defence.gov.au

DCO hosts a Pizza 'n' Panel function each year as a way of supporting families through a deployment. The event is traditionally held in August and dates will be confirmed soon. To register an expression of interest please email dco.canberra@defence.gov.au

The DCO Autumn/Winter Floating Coffee Club will have its last meeting on August 6th. The north side group meet at the Gungahlin Library at 10am and everyone is welcome. I guess after August 6th it will become the Spring/Summer Floating Coffee Club...

The Duntroon Community Book Club meets on the 1st Tuesday of each month at 7pm in the Duntroon Community Centre. Due to insurance reasons all attendees must be members which costs $20. For more information about the book club call Kristy on 0407209657 or email kristy.bryden@gmail.com. For more information about membership call The Duntroon Community Centre on 62659411.

DCO is on Facebook! The page continues to be a busy resource for the organisation. To receive information and updates from DCO visit www.facebook.comDefenceCommunityOrganisation and “like” their page.

I hope you all have a happy and safe break!

Take good care.

Sarah.
Here is the next Maths Cheeky Challenge... Go for it Mathematicians!!

Your challenge:
Use the poly plug frames to record patterns. These patterns could be:
- Number patterns—5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30...
- Letter patterns—ABABABABABABA...
- Shape or colour patterns—了一系列的图案...
- One or two or three step problems— \((x^2 + 1)\) 2, 4, 5, 10, 11, 22 23...

Your next challenge:
Create a pattern where a family member or friend has to guess the pattern/rule and then continue the pattern. For example—4, 8, 12, __, __, 24, 28...

PARENTS:
This challenge focuses on:
- addition facts beyond 10
- addition facts to 10
- counting
- division
- group (or skip) counting
- mathematical conversation
- multiplication
- odd & even numbers

Mr Lowe and I would love to see and share your hard work!!! We will publish your Maths Cheeky Challenge answers in next week’s newsletter!!
Email Miss Jeffries: brooke.jeffries@cg.catholic.edu.au
Remember to keep sending in those challenge solutions.
Here are your poly plug frames to print. Happy creating and sharing!!!

Go for it Mathematicians!!!
Congratulations and thank you to those children who have completed the Cheeky Challenge for weeks three and four. Check out their masterful ideas!!
Week 5, Term 3 (19th-23rd of Aug) is Book Week all across Australia!
A time when we Celebrate the wonderful shortlisted books, and of course dress up. This year’s theme is ‘Read across the universe’. We would love the children to dress up and would also like to give you plenty of notice. Be creative and come dressed as your favourite space related character or simply come dressed as a character from a book. Enjoy planning your costume.

We have lots of things planned during this week including craft activities, parades, 2 special performances, and a book fair! More detailed information will come next term.....
Playgroup / Parents

Morning Tea

Held @ Mother Teresa School

Term 3 – 1st August, 15th August, 29th August, 12th Sept, 26th Sept

Every Second Thursday
In The ELC Playground

EVERYONE WELCOME!

9-11AM
For further information contact Esther Warton
Mobile – 0437 650 063
Email – esther31071@yahoo.com.au
GOLD COIN DONATION